

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 25, 2025

9:00 AM



GATHERING

Prelude (a time for silent meditation)

Announcements

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Confessions and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.

C: Amen.

P: Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Merciful God,

C: you speak blessing and compassion into the world.

**Forgive us for the ways we act
with judgment, cruelty, or indifference.**

We ignore the needs of our neighbors;

we resist your call to oppose injustice;

we give in to scarcity and fear;

we assume the worst about one another.

Cleanse us from our faults

and release us from their grasp.

Show us your lovingkindness.

Restore our hearts and repair your world,

that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.

P: God proclaims these words of assurance:

"Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In ✚ Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn: “We are Marching in the Light of God/Siyahamba” WOV 650

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march - ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos',
light of God. We are march - ing in the light of God,

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Si - ya - ham - ba (ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba) OO
We are march - ing (march - ing, we are march - ing) OO

si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos'.
we are march - ing in the light of God.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE READING OF GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Acts 16:9-15

⁹ During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." ¹⁰ When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. ¹³ On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. ¹⁴ A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 67

¹ May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

² **Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.**

³ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴ **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

⁵ Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶ **The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

⁷ May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

Second Reading: Revelation 21:10,22-22:5

¹⁰ And in the spirit [one of the angels] carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

²² I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. ²³ And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. ²⁵ Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. ²⁶ People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. ²⁷ But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; ⁴ they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

Word of God, Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

P: The Holy Gospel according to John, the 14th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: John 14:23-29

²³ Jesus answered [Judas (not Iscariot),] “Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

²⁵ “I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard me say to you, ‘I am going away, and I am coming to you.’ If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ

Children's Sermon

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

WOV 649



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

Refrain



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.**

Through him all things were made.

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
In accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
And the life of the world to come. Amen**

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends with: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

The Offering

Please leave your offering on our website: <https://secure.myvanco.com/YJ34/home>

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray...

**C: Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace
along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again,
breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal,
that we may live as your risen body in the world.
Amen.**

SACRAMENT

The Great Thanksgiving

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of grace.
Receive the gift of new life.

Distribution

**The body of Christ, given to you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.**

Prayer after Communion

P: Living One, in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world.
C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C: Amen.

Sending Hymn: "Lord, Reign in Me"

Verse 1

Over all the earth You reign on high
Every mountain stream every sunset sky
But my one request Lord my only aim
Is that You'd reign in me again

Chorus

Lord reign in me reign in Your pow'r
Over all my dreams in my darkest hour

You are the Lord of all I am
So won't You reign in me again

Verse 2

Over every thought over every word
May my life reflect the beauty of my Lord
'Cause You mean more to me
Than any earthly thing
So won't You reign in me again **Chorus**

Dismissal

P: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C: **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P: Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C: **Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

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OUR MISSION - FAITHFUL IN THE WORD

- + To **gather** as God's people and nurture one another
- + To **know** the Word of God
- + To **grow** in faith, love, and service
- + To **go** into the world with the Good News of Jesus Christ



SERVING OUR LORD IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor

Music Director

Lay Reader

Communion Assistant

Fellowship Time

The Rev. Matthew E. Ollikainen

Michael Dettra

David Elkin

Kristi Ward

Open

ALTAR FLOWERS

The Altar Flowers are dedicated by Janice Hoffmann in loving memory of Don Hoffmann, Sr.

MISSION SUPPORT

Mission Support is dedicated to the Glory of God.

LAST SUNDAY'S WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 18

TOTAL: 52

8:00 AM: 13+1=14

9:30 AM: 37+1=38

Sunday School: 0

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE: SUNDAY, MAY 25 THROUGH SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- ✦ Advent will have a single worship service at 9:00 AM on Sundays through Labor Day, September 7.
- ✦ Services will still be live-streamed and uploaded on YouTube.
- ✦ Both Sunday School and Adult Bible Study will resume in the fall.



COMMUNION REMINDER

The Worship and Music Committee would like to remind the congregation that those going forward to the altar for communion have a few options. There is gluten-free bread in the small clear glass bowl, and white grape juice for those who prefer. Just let the Pastor or assistant know your preference. Thank you.

THURSDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY VIA ZOOM – RESUMING THIS THURSDAY, MAY 29, 7:00 PM

You are invited to a study of the Gospel of Matthew on Thursday nights via Zoom. Pastor will be leading the study, which utilizes the “The Jewish Annotated New Testament” as one of our resources to delve deep into Jesus’ times and to better understand this Gospel written to a Jewish-Christian audience.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82089110140>

Meeting ID: 820 8911 0140

CONTACTING PASTOR MATT

If you need to speak with Pastor Matt when he is not in the office, particularly in the case of a pastoral emergency, please feel free to call his cell at 215-859-3778 or email him at pastor@adventrichboro.org. If he is not available to take your call, leave a message and he will contact you.

DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY SERVICES

Payments for dedications may be made using the marked envelopes by the sign-up charts.

*Please place payment in the offering plate or mail payment to the church at
45 Worthington Mill Road, Richboro, PA 18954.*

*Please write check to **Advent Evangelical Lutheran Church**
and write **Altar Flowers** or **Mission Support** in the memo line on your check.*

2025 ALTAR FLOWERS CHART

The 2025 Flower Chart to dedicate altar flowers each Sunday is on the table in the narthex. The cost is \$25 per bouquet, and you are welcome to take the flowers home following the late service. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication: 215-355-2529

2025 MISSION SUPPORT

The 2025 Mission Support Chart is available for sign up on the table in the narthex. Mission Support Dedication donations benefit our sister church, Iglesia Luterana Nueva Creacion, which does vital work in North Philadelphia. Dedication donations are \$25. You can also call the church office to submit your mission dedication: 215-355-2529

DONATIONS FOR FELLOWSHIP TIME

Fellowship Time is held Sundays directly following the 9:00 AM service. The sign-up sheet to provide refreshments for Fellowship Time is available in the narthex on the refreshment table. Advent supplies hot beverages and paper products.

If you are looking for a way to assist with Fellowship Time but do not have the time or ability to bake or shop for snacks, please consider donating a few dollars.

The hungry snackers will appreciate it!

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION

BEGINS NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 1 AFTER 9:00 AM SERVICE



Communion is a gift from God, allowing us to receive His grace, nourish our faith, and more fully participate in the life of the Church.

Advent will offer First Holy Communion instruction every other Sunday for 4 weeks, beginning Sunday, June 1, 2025. Parents of baptized children, grade 5 and older are encouraged to register their child by completing an online registration form at <https://forms.gle/2uNSDtbybWxXktVs7>. Hard copy registration forms are also available in the narthex. Please call the church office at 215-355-2529 with any questions.

If your child is younger than grade 5, and you would like to discuss enrolling them, please call the church office to speak with Pastor Matt. Decisions on younger children will be made on a case-by-case basis.

PRAYER CHAIN

The Prayer Chain is a group of volunteers at Advent who pray every day, confidentially, for people added to the Prayer Chain. Names are maintained for one month unless asked to be removed earlier.

To add names to the Prayer Chain:

- ✦ Complete a Prayer Request Card found in the pews of the sanctuary. Please place completed cards in the offering plate, or
- ✦ Submit names by email directly to Linda Weaver at lindaweaver3@comcast.net.

If you would like to be a Prayer Chain volunteer, please contact Linda Weaver to be added to the email list.

DRIVE-IN & DROP-OFF FOOD COLLECTION – WARMINSTER FOOD BANK

If you have food for the Warminster Food Bank and the church is not open, just drive into the parking lot and drop off the food inside the bench outside the front door. You may still bring food into the church narthex during church and office hours. Check their website for the most current needs: www.warminsterfoodbank.org. Thank you for helping our neighbors in need.

RECYCLING CAN TABS FOR RONALD McDONALD HOUSE CHARITIES

We are collecting can tabs to support the Ronald McDonald House Charities which help alleviate some financial burdens for families along their child's healthcare journey. Last year alone, they helped families save \$736 million in lodging and meal expenses.

Tabs can be placed in the marked containers in the narthex, on the shelf above the coat rack.

No cans, please – just tabs!

COMING SOON TO ADVENT: Large Print Edition of OUR DAILY BREAD



Our Daily Bread
Ministries™

Our Daily Bread devotional will be available in large print at Advent by mid- June. The devotionals are also available digitally:

- Download their app at: <https://www.odbm.org/about-us/mobile-resources>
- Sign up for an email subscription at: <https://www.odbm.org/about-us/email-subscription>.

If you have any questions or need assistance accessing the devotionals digitally, please contact the church office at 215-355-2529 or adventlutheranrichboro@gmail.com.

FALL 2024/SPRING 2025 HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

Congratulations to all Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 High School and College graduates and their families!

On **Sunday, June 1**, Advent will recognize new graduates at the 9:00 AM worship service. Graduates will also be recognized in the June/July 2025 Newsletter.

Please send the information requested below no later than Monday, May 26, to be included in the June/July Newsletter. Forms are also available in the narthex.

To submit your information, you may:



Email the church office at AdventLutheranRichboro@gmail.com



Call the church office at 215-355-2529



Complete the form below and place in the offering plate in the church sanctuary

Fall 2024/Spring 2025 High School and College Graduate Information

Graduate's Name: _____

High School: _____

or

College Name: _____

Degree & Major: _____

Plans for future: _____

APRIL FINANCIAL REPORT

Financial Report For April 2025		
	Rec'd for April 2025	Budget for April 2025
General Fund	\$18,739.93	\$18,609.00
Mortgage	\$1,344	\$1,898.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$70	\$133
Other Benevolence	\$520	
Web Upgrade		
Total	\$20,673.93	\$20,640.00
	Rec'd YTD 1/1-4/30/25	Budget YTD 1/1-4/30/25
General Fund	\$50,016.56	\$74,436.00
Mortgage	\$5,618.00	\$7,592.00
Bene. - Synod Only	\$235.00	\$532.00
Other Benevolence	\$2,226.00	
Web Upgrade	\$450.00	
Total	\$58,545.56	\$82,560.00

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



CHANGE IN CHURCH OFFICE HOURS THIS WEEK

The church office will be closed this upcoming Tuesday, May 27. The office will be open Wednesday, May 28 and Thursday, May 29.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES

Sunday, June 1, during the 9:00 AM Worship Service



Congratulations to all Fall 2024 and Spring 2025 High School and College graduates and their families! On **Sunday, June 1**, Advent will recognize the new graduates at the 9:00 AM worship service. They will also be recognized in the June/July 2025 Advent Newsletter. Please contact the church office if you have a graduate to be recognized and celebrated!

CHURCH PARKING LOT MAINTENANCE

Monday, June 2 (Rain Date: Tuesday, June 3)



Advent's parking lot is scheduled to be seal-coated on Monday, June 2. (Rain Date will be Tuesday, June 3). Per the seal-coating company, the lot will be safe for driving/parking on the third day. Therefore, if the work is done on Monday, the parking lot can be used on Wednesday. If the work is done on Tuesday, the parking lot can be used on Thursday.

Any groups or organizations that have scheduled events on Monday and Tuesday, (or Tuesday and Wednesday, if it rains) will need to reschedule, or park on the grass-line along the street.

DETTA MENTAL SPRING CONCERT – FRIDAY, JUNE 6, 2025, 7:30 PM



Come and hear the beautiful sounds of the Caribbean and beyond with Advent Music Director, Mike Dettra and The Dettra Mental Quartet. Mike performs popular island music, old and new, with his band on marimba and steel pan. The show is free to attend but free-will cash donations are appreciated!

THIS WEEK AT ADVENT

SUNDAY, MAY 25 Sixth Sunday of Easter

Summer Worship Schedule Begins

9:00 AM Single Worship Service with Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open

MONDAY, MAY 26 Memorial Day

9:00 AM Benediction/Convocation at Dembrowski Veterans Memorial Park
(part of the Northampton Township Memorial Day Ceremony)
7:30 PM A.A. Open Meeting

TUESDAY, MAY 27

All Day Church office closed
6:30 PM Ping Pong

THURSDAY, MAY 28

7:00 PM Zoom Bible Study with Pastor Matt

FRIDAY, MAY 30

7:30 PM A.A. Step Meeting

SUNDAY, MAY 25 Seventh Sunday of Easter Recognition of Graduates

9:00 AM Single Worship Service with Communion
10:00 AM Fellowship Time: Open
10:30 AM First Communion Instruction with Pastor Matt – Week 1

